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THE MAINE FARMER

AGRICULTURE MECHANIC ARTS LITERATURE NEWS

THE MAINE FARMER PUBLISHING CO., Publishers and Proprietors. "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN." AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1900. TERMS: \$1.00 per Annum, in Advance. No. 42.

Maine Farmer.

Z. A. GILBERT, Agricultural Editor.

FAIRS TO OCCUR.

Agricultural Fairs in Maine for 1900 with Dates so far as Fixed.

Maine State Agricultural, Lewiston, Sept. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, E. L. Stearns, Bangor, Sec. Androscoggin County, Livermore Falls, August 29, 30, 31, J. L. Lowell, Auburn, Sec. Durham Agricultural, Durham, J. H. Williams, Durham, Sec. Arden County, Houlton, Geo. T. Holman, Houlton, Sec. North Arden County, Presque Isle, Sept. 11, 12, 13, E. T. McLaughlin, S. Presque Isle, Sec. Southern Arden County, Sherman Mills, Isaac Sherman, Sherman Mills, Sec. Madawaska, Madawaska, Remi A. Daigle, Madawaska, Sec. Cumberland County, Gorham, Sept. 11, 12, 13, Chas. H. Leighton, Cumberland Mills, Sec. Northern Cumberland, Harrison, Oct. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, H. B. Clough, Cumberland Mills, Sec. Gray Park Association, Gray Corner, Aug. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, W. W. Berry, New Gloucester, Sec. Bridgton Farmers' Club, Bridgton, F. C. Keith, Bridgton, Sec. New Gloucester, New Gloucester, and Danville, Upper Gloucester, Sept. 26, 27, F. W. Berry, New Gloucester, Sec. Lake View Park, East Sebago, A. L. Black, East Sebago, Sec. Franklin County, Farmington, J. J. Hunt, Farmington, Sec. North Franklin, Phillips, Sept. 11, 12, 13, W. S. Kelley, Phillips, Sec. Hancock County Agricultural, Bluehill, Sept. 18, 19, 20, Nahum Hinckley, Bluehill, Sec. Hancock County Fair Association, Ellsworth, E. F. Whitcomb, Ellsworth, Sec. Northern Hancock, Amherst, A. W. Silsby, Amherst, Sept. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, E. A. Wood, Salisbury Cove, Frank A. Wood, Salisbury Cove, Sec. Kennebec County, Kennebec, Sept. 18, 19, 20, Arthur N. Douglas, Chelsea, Sec. Piscataquis, Piscataquis, Sept. 26, 27, F. C. Hanley, 67 N. Main, Bangor, Sec. North Knox Union, Sept. 26, 27, G. C. Hayes, Union, Sec. Oxford County, Oxford, Oct. 2, 3, 4, E. A. Woodbridge, No. Newcastle, Sec. Oxford County, Oxford, Sept. 26, 27, A. C. Fossett, Pompano, Sec. C. T. King, S. Paris, Sept. 18, 19, 20, A. C. Fossett, Paris, Sec. Palmyra Grange Fair, Sept. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Wm. E. Abbott, Bethel, Sec. Oxford County, Oxford, Sept. 26, 27, T. L. Eastman, Fryburg, Sec. Androscoggin Valley, Canton, H. T. Tirrell, Canton, Sec. Northern Oxford, Andover, John F. Talbot, Andover, Sec. Penobscot County, Hampden, Geo. N. Holland, Hampden, Sec. West Penobscot, Baxter, Sept. 26, 27, F. J. Jewett, Baxter, Sec. Penobscot, B. D. Averill, Prentiss, Sec. East Edgemoor Farmers' Club, East Edgemoor, Sept. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, J. C. Orrington, Orrington, Sept. 19, 20, 21, N. A. Nickerson, Orrington, Sec. East Piscataquis, Milo, A. L. Ward, Milo, Sec. West Piscataquis, Monson, W. A. Bray, Monson, Sec. Sagadahoc County, Topsham, Oct. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, S. S. Wilder, W. Pembroke, Sec. Piscataquis Farmers' Club, Richmond, Sept. 26, 27, C. E. Diggs, Richmond, Sec. Madeline County, Madeline, Sept. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, J. F. Barry, Madeline, Sec. York County, Saco, S. S. Andrews, Biddeford, Sec. York and Hollis, Buxton, J. E. Elden, Bar Mills, Sec. Ransack Park, Newfield, E. E. Goodwin, Goodwin, N. H. Sec. Sheepskin and Acton, Acton, Fred K. Bodwell, Acton, Sec. North York Union, Cornish, Aug. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, L. H. Merrill, E. Parsonsfield, Sec. North Berwick Agricultural, N. Berwick, Geo. Perkins, N. Berwick, Sec.

Why do some papers continue to talk about butter of eighty per cent. butter fat, and why does the Holstein-Friesian Association figure all their calculated butter eighty per cent. fat? There is actually no such thing known, in tangible form, as butter of so low a per cent. of butter fat. Butter containing so low a per cent. of fat as that named is not found on the market—will not pass current with the butter trade. Commercial butter contains from eighty-five to eighty-eight per cent. pure butter fat, and should a chance tub get on the market with so low a portion of fat as eighty per cent. only, it would at once be pronounced defective and the price discounted.

INQUIRIES CONTINUE TO APPEAR IN REGARD TO GROWING BOUNTIFUL CROPS OF GRASS FROM THE USE OF CHEMICALS, AS DESCRIBED BY MR. CLARK IN HIS SEVERAL COMMUNICATIONS WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN THE FARMER.

We are glad of these inquiries, for it leads us to call up a feature of this matter of fertilization and crop production, that is either not well understood or else quite frequently overlooked.

Too many farmers are studying the problem of fertilization with a longing desire to secure bountiful crops with scanty manuring. With the wish for full crops is coupled the act of economizing manure. In this burning question of renovating or bringing back to reasonable production the grass fields of the drought stricken sections of the state the point we would emphasize is best shown by example. At the present time the farmer takes his least productive acre and wishes to bring it into its present half ton of hay up to two tons in one jump. The soil of the field is lean—exhausted of the needed humus, its available nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash chiefly used up. Scientific men tell us there are a certain number of pounds of nitrogen in two tons of hay, also a named amount of phosphoric acid and of potash. The farmer may go into the market and purchase chemicals containing the amounts of available materials contained in the hay and apply them to that acre of land, but he will not thereby realize the full two tons of hay. He has applied all that is called for in the crop but the two tons of hay do not respond, and in such case never will.

To realize in crops the full measure of manures applied, whether in the form of chemicals, commercial fertilizers as found on the market, or barn manures, the land must be fat with richness to start with. Crops neither begin nor leave off making an increase on leanness of soil. There must be available plant food mingled with the soil to start the growth of the plants. There must also be a measure of the same material in the last stages of growth. Hence it is not in the nature of plant growth to use up all the plant food in the soil, and then stop.

Mr. Clark in his communications has emphasized the point that to get such crops of grass as he had harvested there must be a full stand of grass plants. To secure this every part of the soil alike must be full of plant food. Hence the soil must through previous preparation be well filled with manures before the application of the chemicals he names.

It is only in such case that the growth of crop will bear an approximate relation to the amount of material applied. Mr. Clark in replying to an inquiry as to how much of the chemicals named should be applied closes his answer thus:

"I would advise, however, that the land be taken up and redeemed by careful and extensive cultivation, for far better results will be attained where this is true."

Right here is the key to Mr. Clark's remarkable crops—the soil full of fatness to start with, then the land full of grass plants. This is then followed by the application of the right material in abundance, and in available form, on which the grass feeds and makes up its rapid and abundant growth. It is in this way alone that the growth of crop can be depended upon to bear any close proportion to the amount of manures applied. It is then that the chemicals applied go to feed the crop instead of fattening the soil.

Here is where so many farmers will fall in efforts to reach Mr. Clark's success in growing grass. They will begin on their run out, lean, hungry soils instead of the land already full of fatness. To succeed with the profitable use of chemicals for manures the application must go to feed the plant instead of being used up to enrich the soil. Hence the importance of a preparation of the soil before abundant crops can be realized.

In the matter of top-dressing for grass many farmers make the mistake of making the application to run out grass fields. If they would realize the full advantage of the fertilizing material contained in their application it should be applied to the best fields rather than the poorest and where there is a full and fresh stand of grass plants to be fed.

Then the full strength of the manure goes to production.

We would not give the impression that we claim that chemical fertilizers cannot be successfully and profitably used in the increase of the grass crop unless the soil is already in a rich condition. Our point is that such crops of grass as Mr. Clark is growing cannot be realized unless the land is first prepared for it. Grass fields somewhat run down can be profitably renovated by the use of concentrated manures alone. But in such case the application will not all be represented in the crop resulting.

QUALITY IN APPLES.

What are we doing? The country over, Maine not excepted, is being filled with Ben Davis apple trees. And for what? To be shipped abroad. Nobody here wants them so long as our better fruit is on the market. At the present time a barrel of Ben Davis apples can hardly be obtained at any price in our local markets. They are so inferior in desirable quality that they are shunned by consumers so long as they can get good fruit. A buyer whom we know is now buying up this variety at a dollar and fifty cents a barrel when he has just disposed of his stock on hand of Baldwin and Greenings at half twice that price. Yet in face of the proof that people prefer good fruit, Mr. Van Deman, ex-pomologist of the national department of agriculture, told the Western New York horticulturists the other day that it would not be long before their magnificent Baldwin orchards would be supplanted by the Ben Davis.

Along in the same drift is the wide recommendation of late of the York Imperial apple. This is a variety of the same low grade of quality, slightly improved perhaps from the Ben Davis, yet lacking that delicious richness which characterizes our best varieties and which consumers so much desire.

The Gano is another of the same character and type which is being pushed to favor. It is probably a seedling of Ben Davis, and no better than its parent, save perhaps a little higher colored.

The Hase is another of the same grade, a prolific bearer and a late keeper. This variety has been planted quite extensively in our state of late. In hardiness bearing and keeping it is all right, but seriously wanting in just that characteristic which gives fruit its greatest value.

Now, then, would it not be well to consider whether we are drifting? Following the popular recommendation of the day, fruit growers will soon find themselves loaded with fruit for shipping, but with little to meet popular home demand. The whole continent this side the Rockies is planting orchards to grow apples for the European market. Would it not be well for horticultural societies and leading pomological lights to consider that our own people want fruit, and that they still prefer the rich, juicy, highly flavored varieties? We should not labor on find that we are growing shipping fruit in quantity yet have little for home use. Our people want fruit. They have learned the merits of good fruit, and the best is none too good for them. It is not enough that fruit will carry well across the water. We contend that the richest and most acceptable varieties to our own people should still have a large place in our planting.

BARTLETT PEARS—FLEMISH BEAUTY.

In the discussion on pears at the New Gloucester meeting it was stated that the Bartlett pear is too tender for the latitude of Maine. This is not in accord with our own experience in growing this valuable variety, nor does our observation among other growers corroborate such a claim.

On the market the Bartlett pear is the standard of excellence, always in demand, always wanted so long as any are to be had. There are probably more of this popular variety sold from the fruit stands than of all other varieties put together. There may be better pears to be had but the public want the old and well-known Bartlett.

We do not like to have so desirable a variety as the Bartlett underrated by our state fruit society. We have grown this variety for more than thirty years without finding but it stands up under our severe winters as well as the Clapps growing alongside. Besides, it is almost a constant bearer; lighter crops some years than others, but some fruit almost every year and a heavy crop in the seasons favorable to fruitage. Observation through the leading fruit growing sections of the state leads us to the conclusion that other growers of the Bartlett find it reasonably hardy and generally productive.

We see that fruit growers still persist in talking about the Flemish Beauty, a variety discarded by us years ago. True, the tree is hardy and a vigorous grower, but even this combination does not insure fruit with this variety. Possibly once in a decade a portion of the fruit will reach a fair degree of perfection. Spraying proves only a partial protection, so that with this variety there is always a deal of care and fussing, and finally very little to reward for it. We can do

better with other varieties, and it is time the Flemish Beauty were let alone by all hands, and attention bestowed on varieties that are sure to return a reward for the efforts bestowed. Under the most careful selection of varieties there is always a measure of uncertainty in regard to fruit, but we do well to so shape our efforts to reduce that uncertainty to the minimum.

FINE WOOL WANTED.

Merino wool for several years in the past has been somewhat off in demand. By this we do not mean that fine wool has not been wanted in a measure. But the demands of the trade have been running proportionately more in the direction of the middle wools, leaving less of the fine wanted in manufacture. At the same time, the price of all wool being low, more attention has been centered on the growing of the middle wool sheep on account of the meat side of their value, as well as the better demand and higher price of the wool clip. As a result of this situation, the finest grades of wool at the present time are in greatest demand. Manufacturers find that there is at the present time an actual famine of fine wool in this country. And not only is this the case in this country but it is also the case abroad. Australian wool is small on account of the great loss of sheep from the drought two years ago. London is advancing its bids for fine wool at every sale. In fact, we have been exporting fine wool so long as dealers had it to spare. The fear is expressed in our markets that even the supply of the ordinary grades of wool may not hold out to keep our mills running till the new clip is available.

Merino sheep owners who have held to their flocks are now right in the line of demand. This is only proof repeated that whoever clings to his favorites will find his pronging right side up his share of the time. Popular demand may vary for a time but the pendulum swings back again to him who carries a level head and a steady hand. While the popular call has been for lamb and mutton regardless of wool, now for a time the fleece is to have its innings, and the Merinos, Ramboulllets and Delaines are all right again.

IMPROVING THE HERD.

In an editorial on breeding up the herd to a higher standard of excellence, in one of our exchanges, we find the following paragraph: "If all kinds of business could be as easily improved as the dairy can be, those who are engaged in general husbandry would think themselves exceedingly fortunate."

That is good easy reading and looks simple enough on the face of it. Yet if that editor had been as experienced in breeding as in writing he never would have put such a statement on paper. His idea of the ease with which improvements may be brought about in a herd of animals is shown by a further declaration that "it is simply involves breeding up the herd with a pure bred bull."

Now, if the use of a pure bred male were all that is required to build up the excellence of a herd, steed or flock, then improvement would truly be a simple matter, and farmers with animals on their hands not of the highest merit of their kind might be properly charged with that stolid indifference to the merits of superiority now so easily laid to their door. But in fact it is not either a simple or an easy matter to build up to a higher degree of excellence a herd of cows, for example, or even to improve a herd already of good quality by breeding alone. All farmers know that pure bred stock is not all alike. There is the same need of selection, where a superior animal is wanted among pure bred stock that is necessary with ordinary stock of mixed blood. One who has the large dairymen of this state would find a short time since, after years of breeding with pure animals on both sides, that his herd was not now reaching so high a standard of performance at the pail as was the case with his herd of years ago from which his present animals were bred. Others are having a like experience. It is not a trifling matter to select a sire whose get will be better than his dams.

Improvement is reached through the combined work of breeding, weeding and feeding, and especially with a large measure of the weeding. Hood Farm herd of Jerseys was first made up by the purchase of the best cows in the breed regardless of price, and now all the breeding does not prove to be Brown Bessies, Merry Maidens or Lilly Flagg.

We are not referring to these matters to discourage efforts at improvement, not at all. Improvement should be the aim of every stock owner. But it means something more than the use of a pure bred sire. The sire must be selected with judgment. Then, only the animals that prove to be better than those from which they came should be retained in the herd or flock. Finally, they must be fed and cared for in a manner that will develop and bring out the merits coming from the breeding. When all these requirements are successfully observed it will be found that the improvement of even a cow is not a simple matter nor more easily accomplished than is im-

provement in a general business. Intelligence, sound judgment and close attention to requirements are as necessary on the farm as elsewhere. There is no way to get up higher in anything than through studied effort.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Mr. Editor:—I am an express messenger on the train from Bangor to Caribou, but am going to farming next spring and I would like a few points from you on the subject.

1st—What are the most profitable crops to raise?
2nd—What stock is the most profitable on the farm?
3rd—What are the best beef breeds?
4th—What is the most profitable breed of sheep for wool and meat combined?
5th—What kind of a team would you advise me to use on the farm?

Caribou, Me. L. L. B.

There are so many factors in this broad problem of successful farming that it is impracticable for any one to answer the questions asked above other than in a general way, leaving the actor to apply to his own individual case such as may seem to best meet the purposes in hand. In this great business of farming no one can work by rule. So no outside party can set down a code of practice that can be taken as a guide to be adopted in full to all cases. There must be an intelligent forehand every step in farming to guide and direct it.

Let—That depends on the line of farming to be carried on. As a rule here in Maine the principal effort should be directed to some line of stock husbandry. In that case the aim should be largely the production of fodder crops. No one can name which of these can be grown to best advantage without a knowledge of the soil and situation where they are to be produced.

2nd—In answering this question we should say, the stock the operator likes the best. From a lifetime of observation among farmers we can truly say that in a long run there is little difference, in the matter of profit, in the kind of stock to be chosen. Any kind and every kind may be made successful if well handled, and every kind will have its days of superior profit and its periods of depression. So one is all right when he follows his individual taste, and selects the kind of stock he likes best to care for, handle and have around him.

3rd—The best beef breeds are the Herefords and the Shorthorns, either bred pure or crossed with each other.

4th—The Shropshire is all right, and gives satisfaction wherever kept. It is the popular breed at the present time. If a finer wool and heavier fleece are wanted the Rambouillet will fill the bill. This last named breed is not so well known as the Shropshire but is a good sheep all the same.

5th—Where there is work enough on the farm to keep a team steadily employed horses are the team to do it with. It would appear the height of folly to recommend an ox team in the face of the present practice. Yet on many small farms, with but limited work to be done, considered from the standpoint of dollars alone, there is more to be realized from oxen than from horses.

THE GRASS CROP.

Mr. Editor: I am very glad you have taken up the hay question in the Farmer, as I am very much interested in hay, the most of any one crop. I cut about half a crop this year, or rather about a third what I cut three years ago, and I am much better off than most of the farmers in Gardiner, West Gardiner, Farmingdale, Hallowell, Litchfield, Monmouth, Richmond, Pittston and Chelsea; and now the sun is burning what is left of the grass roots all up. My fields were mostly herd's grass and they are all red, not having moisture in the ground to start. We have had but one shower of rain since the first of June. The grain has been all out for fodder; pastures all dried up. Now, I have no stock on home farm, but there are 18 cows, 10 head of heifers on the farm where my son lives. He has 30 acres of intervals where his stock are grazing now. It is poor food but is better than none. With plenty of provender, they give a good flow of milk yet and look plump and nice.

But what are we to do next year, is the question. I have to help him out on my home farm this year. Last year he carried over 20 tons. Now we want to plow and seed down 10 acres more than we have dressing for. What shall we use as a fertilizer? We will have to re-seed 10 acres that was seeded to grass this year. I seeded one acre with 1000 lbs. Williams' and Clark's phosphate and 500 lbs. bone to try it this spring. If we have rain soon, can save it, I think, by sowing more grass seed in spring. What about Mr. Clark's way? Would it pay to take water from reservoir on hill and irrigate? The sawdust horse dressing lasts but 4 or 5 years.

Apples are free from worms at this time; no railroad worms shows up; plums quite full; gooseberry bushes were full; raspberries and blackberries the same; drouth affected blackberries. Currants loaded, but a failure on account of a white worm or maggot inside of the fruit. What can I do for them? I sprayed apples, plums and bushes with

arsenate of soda, and white sugar of lead, when apples were size of acorns; gave the trees a good wetting, a barrel to ten or 15 trees, $\frac{1}{2}$ soda, $\frac{1}{2}$ lead. Gardiner, Aug. 7, 1900.

Our correspondent will find his questions answered in this and preceding issues of the Farmer. The condition of grass is a serious problem. Farmers will have to depend more on cultivated fodder crops till their fields can be brought into grass again.

The maggots in the currants referred to are the currant terypa, an insect that works in this fruit as the apple terypa works in the apple. There is no known preventive.

STRAWBERRIES.

The best time for transplanting strawberry plants is August. That time is chosen because they have then done bearing, and have made offsets, if the season has been favorable, of strong plants, set from their runners.

Plantations made at this season will bear fruit next summer.

There are different opinions as to trimming the plants when they are put out. Some cut off all the old leaves, and preserve only nascent leaves in the centre of the plant; others take off the dead or decayed leaves only, and plant with all the old healthy leaves on the plant.

When the plants are put out they should be kept free from weeds, and the ground should be kept loose about them. If the plants are strong, put but one to form the stools; if weak, two. They should be planted in separate hills or rows, two to three feet apart, and a foot apart in the rows, the runners out till past fruiting, when they may be suffered to run for new plants.

The proper soil is light, warm and gravelly; the manure to be applied should be other than animal. The usual practice is to manure the ground with rotten dung, with a view to increase the size and quantity of fruit; but in this, the flavor of the fruit is destroyed in proportion to the richness of the soil. Besides, this form of high manuring produces strong vines with comparatively little fruit.

Rotten leaves, decayed wood, fermented peat, ashes, in small quantity mixed with other vegetable substances in a compost heap, will make better manure for strawberries than any animal substances whatever. If these are not on hand a valuable fertilizer can be had in nitrate of soda and powdered phosphate of lime. They have no need seeds and no odor.

Their application to strawberries will sometimes treble the yield. The berries are larger in size, handsomer in color, solid and of fine flavor. Animal manures will not produce such favorable results as they are not converted into plant food until after the demand of the fruit although in time for plant demands.

Nitrate of soda and powdered phosphate of lime being soluble are assimilated by the plant at once and appropriated at a cost of less than ten dollars per acre, using four hundred pounds of the mixture which contains the three ingredients considered necessary for feeding plants, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and the alkali, not a murmur which checks the formation of sugar in the fruit, impairing its sweetness; also lime, yielding readily to the growing plant such a full supply of each as may be essential to its healthy growth.

As the vines which bear this fruit require great moisture from the time of blossoming to bring the fruit to its proper size, the soil and situation in which they are placed must not be too dry.

Per cent or ash in the fruit is 3.40. The composition of the ash in the strawberry is as follows:

Potash.....	21.00
Soda.....	28.48
Lime.....	14.20
Magnesia.....	7.78
Oxide of iron.....	5.89
Phosphoric acid.....	13.69
Silica.....	3.05
Sulphuric acid.....	31.16
Chlorine.....	1.66

The foliage and stems contain on the average five times as much of the various elements as the fruit alone, but as these are not sent to market the farm suffers no export but that of the fruit. It is to be noted, of the alkalis in the ash, soda predominates.

ANDREW H. WARD.

For the Maine Farmer,
ALMOST HUMAN INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. Editor: In all my long experience in farming, I never knew of such rare intelligence in a cow as came to my notice a few days ago. Expecting that one of my cows was about to drop calf, several of us drove over one evening to the pasture a mile distant, where she had been herding with other cattle. She was the first one to approach us and we knew she must have a calf somewhere, but where to look for it was the question.

I knew it was customary for cows to hide their calves in the woods or bushes, and as it was nearly dark, I did not have much hope of finding it that evening. Going up to the cow and calling her, I said, "Come, Brownie, lead the way to your calf; we want you to go home with us." Almost immediately she turned

and walked towards the woods. Entering the she woods brought us to the calf, having traveled a distance of one-half mile. The cow understood what we were there for, and after our tying a rope around the calf's neck, she started and led us out of the woods, choosing the regular path, which was difficult for us to find on account of the underbrush and darkness, greatly facilitating our exit. The calf followed the cow and we had no difficulty in getting them home.

Not one cow in a hundred would have been so gentle all through the proceedings nor have been so ready to disclose the place where the calf was secreted.

A SUBSCRIBER.
So. Bridgton, Aug. 10, 1900.

Instances of almost human intelligence like the above can be found among all true dairymen and they tell of those finer sympathetic relations which alone insure complete service. The point has been reached in dairy development where only he who can win the sympathies of his cows, who can make certain their friendship, as has our correspondent, can hope for largest returns at the pail or in the cream jar. Cows fed ever so liberally cannot be forced to yield the last ounce or highest per cent. These come in response to kindly care and friendly relations. Brownie would never have revealed her calf save that she knew it would receive good treatment and be protected. People talk of this being all sentiment but it is the sentiment which alone leads to largest production, and the man who fails to get on the right side of his dairy cow and win her good fellowship can never touch high water mark in production.

For the Farmer.
SHORT TERM ROTATION.

Mr. Editor: Have tried your two-year rotation of corn and grass, or at least have made a two years' trial of it and as far as I have gone with it, it has proved satisfactory; cut a heavy crop of hay where we had corn last year and do not doubt that two years more of the same treatment would give larger crops of corn and hay. The difficulty appears to be that there is a shortage of manure and other land that needs attending to. This hay was mostly clover and I would be tempted to turn the ground over again if sure of a crop of corn with bone meal and ashes for a fertilizer. Is grass different from other crops in its requirements for a large crop?

Haymaker Clark reckons on 500 plants to the square foot. It seems to me that would be crowded, between three and four to the inch. How does he induce his grass to stand up with enough on the ground to yield seven tons of dry hay to the acre? In this country, two or three tons to the acre has a tendency to lodge.

J. L. FERGOUSON.

DIGGING POTATOES.

Mr. Editor: As the time is drawing near for that hard job of digging potatoes, I should like to tell the farmers through your paper how they can make it easier. Buy a potato digger the same as I did two years ago. I bought one of the D. Y. Hallcock & Sons, and it does the work perfectly. It is as much ahead of the hand hoe as the mowing machine is ahead of the hand scythe. I think that the farmers, as a rule, hire too much help instead of buying some of the improved tools and machinery and doing the work with the teams. I worked out enough last year with this digger to pay for it. Buy more of the improved tools and keep the boys on the farm.

ANDROSCOGGIN CO. J. M. FREEMAN.

A MONSTER BUTTER FACTORY.

The Glenorminster butter factory in Australia is probably the biggest thing of the kind in the world. The supply of milk in the flush for several weeks reaches the enormous amount of 105,000 pounds per day. It is also stated that some of the patrons furnish as high as 5,000 pounds per day; and the average is about 2,000 pounds; and these amounts are produced on farms from one to two hundred acres each. In the separating room are sixteen large separators of 400 gallons per hour capacity each, that when necessary can handle 6,000 gallons per hour.

CROP REPORTS.

Our good friend and attentive correspondent, H. L. Leland, writes from Piscataquis: The hay crop was harvested in prime condition, a full average. The grain crops ripening with a heavy growth and free from blight. Corn making a rank growth, but late. It looks as if it must hustle and rustle to get there before a nippling frost. Potatoes very promising. Apple trees generally loaded, looks like a tremendous overproduction. Other crops promising. Drought sharp. Pastures bare and brown, with legions of grasshoppers in both field and pasture.

Entries at the Maine State Fair close Saturday the 18th. If your horses are not entered in the races or stock for exhibition there is no time for delay.

TO BE HOLDEN AT

[illegible]

HAS NO EQUAL

For Spavins, Ringbone, Splints, Curbs,
and all forms of Lameness, beech's or bony swellings.

KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE

Unfailingly Cures the most stubborn and chronic cases of Spavins, Ringbone, Splints, Curbs, and all forms of Lameness, beech's or bony swellings. It is the only remedy of the kind that has been found to be completely successful. **Wm. F. S. GRAYNEVER.**

Ask your druggist for Kendall's Spavin Cure. Price 40¢ per bottle. Sold by all druggists. **Wm. F. S. GRAYNEVER.**

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Maine Farmer.

ESTABLISHED IN 1833.

Published every Thursday, by
The Maine Farmer Publishing Co.,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

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JOSEPH H. MANLEY, President.
GEORGE M. TWITCHELL, Editor and Manager.

THURSDAY, AUG. 16, 1900.

\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.
\$1.50 AFTER 3 MONTHS.

THE FAMILY AND HOME NEWSPAPER OF MAINE.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING:
For one inch space, \$2.50 for four inser-
tions and sixty cents for each subsequent
insertion. Classified ads. one cent a word,
each insertion.

COLLECTORS' NOTICES.
Mr. T. Brooks Reed is calling on subscribers
in Oxford county.
Mr. A. G. Fitz is calling on subscribers in
Cumberland and Androscoggin counties.
Mr. M. E. Hewitt is calling on subscribers
in Washington county.

Sample Copy sent on applica-
tion.
Try the Maine Farmer for one
month.

THE POSITION OF THE FARMER.

One of our state exchanges quotes
from a signed communication in these
columns commencing with: "The Maine
Farmer says," etc. Now the Maine
Farmer never said anything of the kind,
but a subscriber under his signature or a
nom de plume, uses these columns to
criticize or approve a question of public
policy in which he and his associates are
directly interested.

To close the columns of a newspaper
to communications not in sympathy
with the opinions of the editor, savors
of bigotry and intolerance. Any reader
of the Farmer has access to its columns
to discuss any live question from his
own standpoint so long as personalities
are excluded and matters of only personal
interest avoided. It is our only
conception of what a newspaper should be.
Men do not think alike. Time
modifies all opinions, and a free
exchange, discussion or criticism is always
healthy. We have no sympathy with
those who deny others the right of an
opinion or the chance to express the same.

The London correspondent of the
New York Times says "a sensation was
also created on Tuesday by the appear-
ance of a horse drawing a dray with a
sunbonnet on its head." That must
have seemed unnecessary consideration
for the dray.

A man and wife, with their baby, took
their first ride on a railroad train last
week in Alabama, and fearing that the
train would not stop at their destination,
jumped off and were both killed.
It would seem as if the negroes did not
have a monopoly of ignorance in the South.

The Good Roads Institute at the State
House next week, Tuesday, should re-
ceive the attention of every one who can
attend. The speakers announced are
rural men with the exception of Mr.
Richardson, civil engineer of Portland.
The subject is important and the attend-
ance should be large.

A call at the office of the State Board
of Agriculture in Boston lately, brought
out the very pleasant fact that there
is this year a greatly increased demand for
farms and more sales than for many
years. The tide is turning toward rural
life and the farms are growing in the
estimation of would-be purchasers.

The success attending Old Home
Week in New Hampshire and Maine
leads the New York World to urge the
adoption of this feature upon the entire
thirteen original states. It is to be hoped
that every town in Maine will begin early
the preparation for 1901. The result
will be seen in new library buildings and
libraries, new churches and schools, the
improving of ancestral acres and develop-
ing of Maine's varied industries.

Now that New England's soldiers are
perishing of starvation in Africa, for
want of supplies which are tied up
safely in red tape at some inaccessible
point, it is to be hoped that we shall
hear no more twitting about "embalmed
beef." It is a disgrace to any country to
let its brave defenders starve. We are
willing to bear the just blame for our
own mismanagement in the late war,
but events prove that "there are others."

The Farmington Chronicle avers by
the year book or last year's almanac.
It declares that "it knows" that in Andro-
scoggin county the two cities elect an
auditor and the towns do not. There's
no guess work about this. "It knows"
because the almanac says so. What are
the facts? Lewiston, Auburn, Poland,
Mechanic Falls, Lisbon, East Livermore
and Webster all elect an auditor. The
Chronicle can now revise its figures, and
we suggest that it get at the facts before
"it knows" any more.

It is reported that Judge Powers is
going to impartially enforce the liquor
law in all cases coming before him.
Well, why not? What authority has any
one to say that a law is, or is not to be
enforced? If the public will not sus-
tain enforcement let the public demand
repeal. The responsibility for the law
is not on the shoulders of the court and
the assumption that the people do not
want the law enforced is an excuse with-
out the shadow of foundation.

There is something radically wrong
about our whole legal system when the
expense of a single trial amounts up to
that of the Molasses case, which has
already cost New York county more than
\$100,000. A large proportion of this sum
was paid to handwriting experts and
professional chemists, who fatten on
such cases like crows on a dead horse.
The question may well be asked whether
the prosecution of criminals is for the
purpose of furthering the ends of jus-
tice, or for the aggrandizement of lawyers
and expert witnesses.

For the past ten years Mr. J. S. San-
born of Lewiston Junction has made one
of the largest exhibits seen at the Maine
State Fair. Especially have his parades
and showings of stock to long line
before the grand stand been a fea-
ture of interest, and his large stable
of French coach horses one of the cen-
ters of attraction. This year Mr. San-
born takes his stock to Sherbrooke,
Canada, the first week in September,
and will make a large exhibit at the big
fair there. His fine showing will be
missed by thousands of visitors.

Presque Isle is an honest place, and H.
Robinson, one of its store-keepers,
planned his faith to that honesty one
day last week and was not disappointed.
Wishing to take a short outing with a
fish-pond for company, he looked up his
store and placed the daily papers on the
step. Beside them he set a cigar box
with a slot in it and a sign to the effect
that the would-be purchaser of papers
should select what he pleased and drop
the money in the box. On his return he
found a number of papers gone, and the
money in the box exactly corresponding.

The heat wave which passed over the
country last week was far-reaching in its
extent and fatal to a remarkable degree
in its results. In New York Saturday,
the hospitals were crowded, and there
were 33 deaths from the heat, 3 being
children killed by falling from fire es-
capes where they had crawled for a
breath of air. Many prostrations oc-
curred in Boston. In Toledo, Ohio, there
were several suicides of people crazed
by the heat. In Milwaukee, 24 fatalities
have occurred during the week of torrid
weather. Other cities show a similar
record. It was a week of weather which
we hope will not be repeated this year,
at any rate, even with the comparatively
endurable temperature which prevailed
here in Maine.

An elephant in a crockery shop is an
old story, but a deer in a millinery store
is the latest here in Maine, a sort of side
show to "Old Home Week." What other
city can furnish such attractions? Soon
the time will come when the sportsman
can sit in peace amid a bower of tulle
and artificial flowers in a shop window
and pop away at the deer (and deers)
in the store without being subjected to the
inconvenience of a hunting trip. Per-
haps that Waterville deer was trying to
avenge some of his feathered friends
whose corpses adorned the hats in that
emporium. Or did he want a wig for
amateur theatricals, or for a disguise
during the game season? The next thing
before the legislature will be a bill to
protect millinery and wig makers from
deer—or perhaps it could be worked in as
a section of the proposed bill to protect
the farmers' crops. Something must be
done in that line anyway.

It is reported that one New Hampshire
town proposed to celebrate Old Home
Week by reviving a custom which pre-
vailed in the long ago, when comforts
were few and luxuries unknown. Going
to church barefooted, carrying their
shoes and stockings in their hands, was
all right for our forefathers, for years ago
money was scarce and shoes were ex-
pensive, but for children of this genera-
tion to adopt the style, even for a day,
is not desirable nor in good taste. It
was all right years ago, but such an exhi-
bition now would turn a religious ser-
vice into something little better than a
farce. If this is attempted it is to be
hoped that the preacher will bring out
one of the old time two hour sermons
of the Jonathan Edwards' type and oblige
every one to hear it. Old Home Week is
for renewing old time friendships and
reviving old time memories, not for es-
tablishing customs which have been out-
grown.

A little occurrence at Etna last week
may develop into a law-suit in which a
corporation will be interested. A man
from Stetson drove down to Etna and
there was delayed by a train of freight
cars which occupied the crossing. After
waiting about 20 minutes for them to
move, he proceeded to speak his mind on
the subject, and requested the trainmen
to move the train apart in order that he
might cross. They did not deign to at-
tend to his modest request, but the fire-
man did at length condescend to come
down from his cab and pound the un-
fortunate Stetson man most unmerciful-
ly. For this the fireman will be liable
to suffer the penalty of the law. But
there is another statute in relation to
railroads which says of the highways
"And in no way shall be unreasonably
and negligently obstructed by engines,
tenders or cars." The long-suffering
public waiting at a railroad crossing
would sometimes like to see this law
more stringently enforced.

THE EASTERN SITUATION.

Affairs in China are moving on with
somewhat greater rapidity just now, and
although there is the usual number of
contradictory telegrams, a few facts
seem to be assured. China, by her
dallying and deceit, has probably lost
the chance of keeping the allies out of
Peking, a chance which this government
was willing to give her if feasible. The
allied forces have advanced rapidly, and
on Thursday occupied the town of
Hoanlo, about half way from Tientsin
to Peking. It is thought that by this
time they have reached the important
city of Tungkong, 12 miles from the cap-
ital, and possibly are under the walls of
Peking itself. In the capture of Yang-
tsun, the American forces sustained a
heavy loss, and by an unfortunate blun-
der, the Russian artillery shelled our

troops, and a number of the 14th U. S.
Infantry were killed, and wounded.
Many of our troops are dying of heat
prostration. The lack of a supreme
commander over all the forces is severely
felt. Germany has obtained the con-
sent of the Powers to placing Count
Von Waldersee at the head of the allied
troops, but as it is not proposed to send
him out until October, the matter ap-
pears of trifling importance in compar-
ison with the present crisis. Our govern-
ment continues to reiterate the demand
that the foreigners in Peking shall be
protected, and also that a contingent
from the relief column shall be allowed
to enter Peking and conduct them to a
place of safety. The Powers, Russia
possibly excepted, still look to America
for action. It looks now as if the time
for diplomacy was past, and nothing re-
mains but war, plain and unvarnished.

For the Maine Farmer. THE STATE AUDITOR.

Mr. Editor: Let us look at the State
Auditor question a moment with all the
candor we can muster. And first, let us
settle the question: What is the State
Auditor? The State of Maine has an
annual? Is it four million dollars, or
half that amount? When a merchant
sells ten thousand dollars worth of goods
per annum is he doing a ten thousand
dollar business? or a twenty thousand
dollar business? If the State of Maine
spends two millions per annum (and I
think that is about the amount) are we
doing a State business of two million
dollars or four million?

Upon how much of the two million
dollars which the state spends annually
can any auditing authority exercise con-
trol? What is the legitimate business of
the State? Is it to maintain a State
Maine Insane Hospital, or \$200,000 a year
to the University of Maine, or one or
two thousand to this, that, or the other
academy, what can a State Auditor, or a
Governor's Council do in the case? Alas!
no auditing authority can step in and
stay the payment. The mischief is done,
not by the carelessness of the Govern-
ment's Council, but by a higher, and I
think I may say, a more careless body of
men.

Let us not put the plaster upon our
shins, when it needs to go upon our
heads. Many prostrations oc-
curred in Boston. In Toledo, Ohio, there
were several suicides of people crazed
by the heat. In Milwaukee, 24 fatalities
have occurred during the week of torrid
weather. Other cities show a similar
record. It was a week of weather which
we hope will not be repeated this year,
at any rate, even with the comparatively
endurable temperature which prevailed
here in Maine.

The farmers of Maine will not allow
their attention to be easily diverted from
the real evils that beset them. They,
and other laboring classes, are bearing
the burdens which justly ought to fall
upon the property now legally exempt, in
whole or in part, from taxation. If we
adopt the amendment the only thing we
are sure of, is that we shall have to pay
the added cost of the new office. We
wonder whether you go to the polls in Sep-
tember do not indorse the very evils you
have been complaining of.

ORRIN McFADDEN.

In answer to Mr. McFadden it may be
said that a State Auditor, clothed with
proper authority by the legislature,
should audit every expenditure of the
State. There is no reason why an item-
ized statement of all expenditures made
under appropriations for the erection of
Insane Hospitals, additions to Normal
School buildings, and all other State
institutions, should not be examined and
approved by an Auditor. Would any
corporation, business man or men dump
\$225,000 into this place, \$20,000 annually
into that place, and "one or two" thou-
sand into this, that or the other" with-
out requiring an itemized statement, and
thorough examination by an auditor? If
our leading business men require this
why should not the State of Maine have
a system by which every inhabitant of
the State could find out, if they desired,
just how each appropriation was ex-
pended?

Under the laws of Massachusetts the
accounts of every State institution are
audited by the State Auditor.

If the statement is correct that there
is properly exempt from taxation, in
part or in whole, is it no reason why
the bills against the State should not receive
a thorough examination. Rather, it is
an argument that the "farmers and
other laboring classes" should have the
right to know what becomes of their
money and the benefit of a system
which will tend to make their burdens
lighter. The expenditures of the State
are about \$2,000,000, annually, and
whether or not it is called a two or four
million business is not material. The
State is sufficiently large to require look-
ing after. It would be the duty of an
Auditor to audit both the receipts and
expenditures, which would amount to
practically \$4,000,000.

The amount the State is now paying
for auditing the accounts of the treas-
urer, \$750, and for clerk to the State
Pauper Committee of the Council, about
the same amount will pay the salary of
an Auditor. The simple question under
discussion is whether the business
methods adopted by every State in the
Union, save three, shall be adopted in
Maine and the people know where the
money goes to which is raised by the
State. In 1897 the Judiciary Committee
of the Legislature investigated this sub-
ject at length and reported as follows:

"The committee believes that the sum
is insufficient to enable the State Auditor
to perform his duty. It would be a step
in the right direction; that it would
promote a system of greater ac-
countability in the expending of public
money, and that the public of a State
Auditor's report, showing the
items of expenditure, to whom paid and
for what purpose, could not fail to be of
improvement upon the present system.
The people have the right to know, in
detail, who gets the money. The present
system, by which only the gross amounts
paid out for certain purposes appear in
public report, is entirely unsatisfac-
tory."

That committee was composed on the
part of the Senate, of Savage of Andro-
scoggin, Stearns of Arrowscook and Drum-
mond of Cumberland; on the part of the
House, of Noble of Lewiston, Knowl-
ton of Portland, Fogler of Rockland,
Hamilton of Biddeford, Weeks of Fair-
field, Smith of Presque Isle and Phil-
brook of Waterville. Since that time
Savage and Fogler have been placed on
the Supreme Bench of the State. Is this
report made by these leaders worthy
attention today by the people of the
State?

A BIG STATE FAIR.

It seems good to see again the big il-
lustrated poster of the Maine State Fair,
after an absence of three years for it is
without question the best thing of the
kind ever put up in Maine, and it tells
its story this year in a most pleasing and
attractive manner. There is no doubt
but the coming State Fair is to be a re-
cord breaker in point of exhibits as well
as attractions, and the first full week in
September will find the crowds turning
their feet towards Lewiston.

If, as reported, the trustees have de-
cided to hold the entire exhibition at
the grounds, another important forward
step has been taken. Hereafter all the
exhibits will be massed on the grounds
and soon permanent quarters for every
department will be provided. The ad-
vantage of this step will be appreciated
by every visitor and more than this the
expenses of the society will be reduced.
Improvements have also been made in
hotel accommodations and with the
grounds brilliantly lighted with electricity
there will be added evening attractions
in the way of races and novel entertain-
ments beyond anything ever seen in the
state.

Never have the officers labored more
zealously to perfect all details and the
prizes, premiums and usual amount of
entries and exhibits.
The Maine State Fair is the fair of all
New England and this year it is prom-
ised that the record shall be broken.
The creation of the bands and flocks,
the orchards, fields and gardens will be
worked together with the skilled handi-
work of the ladies in marvelous variety.
Entries close this week Saturday the
18th and the Fairer would urge every
producer and grower to enter his crop,
stock or products with Sec. G. H. Clarke,
No. Anson, on or before that date.
Go to all the fairs but be sure and go
to Lewiston, Sept. 4-5-6 and 7.

MAINE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

There will be a full meeting of the
Maine Board of Agriculture at the office
of the board in the State House on
Tuesday, Aug. 21st. This is really a
continuation of the annual meeting
which was adjourned to this date. The
executive committee of the board will
be in session on Monday, Aug. 20. There
are several matters of importance to be
considered by the Board, which will come
up for discussion in connection with the
reports of special committees which
were created at the meeting in January
with instructions to report at this time.
At the Good Roads meeting, which is
to be held on the 22d, the following pro-
gramme will be presented: Remarks by
Mr. J. A. Roberts of Norway, member
of the board from Oxford county; re-
marks by Mr. J. E. Barton of Kennebec
county; remarks by Mr. J. H. Barton of
Windham county; and a paper on "The
Rollers for Winter Road Breaking," by
Mr. E. C. Buzzell, road commissioner of
Fryeburg; lecture by Mr. Percy H. Rich-
ardson, civil engineer of Portland.

B. WALKER McKEEN, Sec.

Augusta, Aug. 10, 1900.

THE PINE TREE STATE.

An inquiry was made some time ago
by one of the subscribers of the Farmer
as to the source of the name "Pine Tree
State" as applied to Maine. No special
person has been named as the originator
of this cognomen. "The Pine Tree State"
probably that it had its rise in the state
seal, which was designed by Benj.
Vaughan of Hallowell, and contains the
pine tree as one of its most conspicuous
features. The lumbering industry of
Maine, which in former years was the
chief business of the state, would be suf-
ficient to give the name to the state, and
it would not be unreasonable to suppose
that the name gradually grew out of this
fact. No one could fail to see its appropriateness
who has traveled much within our borders.

The Maine Central Railroad Company
has just issued a neat pamphlet contain-
ing a complete list of the officers of the
company, the stations of the road on all
its branches and the agents in charge of
the same. An elaborate system of
marks of reference compresses a good
deal of information into one in compact
and makes the little pamphlet very con-
venient for consultation.

There will be a Field Day at the State
Reform School on Wednesday, Aug. 22.
The program will consist of inspection
of ground and buildings, and a boys' parade. The Farmer acknowledges the
receipt of an invitation to be present on
this occasion.

President Seal announces that the en-
tries of cattle for the Eastern State Fair
exceed any year in its history. This is
good news, for a large stock exhibit
means a good fair.

The regular yearly fair of Palmyra
grange will be held Sept. 21 and 22.
Palmyra. E. C. LEAVITT, Sec.

undoubtedly are Nature's Fertilizer for all plants and crops, as they contain Potash, Phos. Acid, Lime, Soda, Silica, etc. The
majestic forest trees, maple, elm, oak, hickory and other hardwood have been busy for many years collecting and storing up
fertilizing matter in the shape of Potash, Phos. Acid, Lime, etc. When these trees are reduced to ashes you have the fer-
tilizing element of the Ashes as drawn from the virgin soil in a concentrated form just as nature has prepared it. What
these forest trees have needed for their growth is just precisely what is required for orchard, field and garden. Ashes are
no experiment. Since the beginning of the settlement of America their value has been demonstrated. Whenever a piece
of new land has been cleared, burnt over and planted, large crops have been harvested for several years, and even now if we
burn brush wood and brush we see what Ashes will do, by the increased growth on the spots where the brush was burned,
vivifying effects of ashes. The analysis of my Ashes at a number of the State Experiment Stations shows from 5 to 8 per
cent. actual Potash, from 1 1/2 to 3 per cent. Phos. Acid, and from 40 to 70 per cent. Wood Lime, Iron, Soda, Silica, etc. Un-
like commercial fertilizer the potash as found in wood ashes is a vegetable and is worth more for agricultural purposes than
the potash as found in Commercial Fertilizer and when used liberally Ashes not only produce a good crop but improve the
soil and not only make it the best but the cheapest fertilizer. In estimating the value of Ashes, often times while the Potash
and Phos. Acid are considered, yet the carbonate of lime is lost sight of and not credited. New experiments made at the
Rhode Island Experiment Station show the very important fact that many soils will not produce paying crops of any kind,
no matter how much Nitrogen, Potash and Phos. Acid are applied, until lime is used. The lime in Wood Ashes being a veg-
etable is the best possible form to do the largest amount of good and is admitted by men who have given it some study as
being worth five times the value of stone or mineral lime.

My Ashes are all collected with my own men and teams and kept in the best possible shape being stored in good build-
ings at the different railway stations.

Price for Any Quantity Quoted on Application.

GEORGE STEVENS,
Post Office Box 699, PETERBORO, ONTARIO, CANADA.

GREAT ATTRACTIONS AT EASTERN STATE FAIR.

If preparations count for anything, the
Eastern Maine State Fair of 1900 will be
the best ever held in the State. This is
an event always looked forward to by
the people in and around Bangor and
those who go to see it this year will go
home better satisfied than ever before.
The management has made a special
effort this year to have some good run-
ning races. It is hard to get good run-
ning here but those coming to the fair
this year, will see four races, with a
good field of horses in each.
The stakes races have all been filled
and there will be the largest field of
horses the stately ever seen here. These
stakes are all of \$300 and will be divid-
ed 10, 15, 25 and 50 per cent. Eight
stake races and a consolation offer to
make a pretty good four days' sport.
The exhibit of stock promises to be
the largest in the history of the fair.
Suitable premiums have been offered for
such exhibits as well as for the other
products of the farm.

There will be new features in the line
of acrobatic feats. There is a company
of tumblers, jugglers, slack wire walkers
and horizontal bar performers and a
daring leap by Miss Alice, from a height
of 45 feet to a table of 15 inches. There
will follow the great back somersault by
Dana Thompson from a height of 95 feet.
Those who were at the last fair year
will remember the wonderful reproduction
of the battle of Manilla by the Maine
Fireworks Company. Nothing in the
shape of a reproduction could be more
realistic. This year the same company
will present the Battle of San Juan Hill.
There will be the block-house, the barbed
wire fences, and trenches defended by
Spaniards, the Rough Riders led by
"Teddy" Roosevelt, charging up the hill,
the bursting of shells, the ringing of flags,
rattle of musketry, and the deep boom
of cannon. All will be as realistic as
money and ingenuity can make it. After
the battle there will be a grand display
of fireworks such as has never been
equalled in Maine. Not the least part
of the show is the great crowd wandering
here and there everywhere, each follow-
ing his own bent. Some look at the
display of fireworks, some at the block-
house, some at the fireworks, some at the
products, some are interested in the
races, and all in the scenes on the Mid-
way Plaisance.

One attraction which is indeed a nov-
elty, for the first time, is the display of
automobiles, for which \$1000 has been
offered in stakes, and an extra \$100 to
the automobile which goes the mile in
less than two minutes.
The automobile is now going through
the northern part of the State advertis-
ing the Eastern Maine State Fair and
this attracts a lot of attention. Indi-
cations are that there will be an im-
mense crowd of people coming to the fair
in August. Those who have not entered
their stock should do so at once and
help make this fair a success in every
respect.

Kennebec County Fair.

The moving of the cattle sheds from
near the entrance to the northeast cor-
ner of the grounds, at Readfield, will be
appreciated by every visitor, especially
in view of the extension of the grounds
nearly to the street. One familiar with
the old location will hardly recognize
the situation when the fair opens Sept.
11. Ample room and a clear field for
visitors, the stock all by itself instead
of being scattered about, a large dining
hall with a seating capacity of over
200, an up-to-date cafe, and the entire
grounds put in thorough repair, are
among the improvements promised and
are to be completed in season. Old
Kennebec is alive this year. Remember
the dates, Sept. 11, 12 and 13, at Read-
field.

Now is the time when labor-saving
engines and wind mills will be in de-
mand and the popularity of the gasoline
engine and the mill increases every day.
Readers of the Farmer will find those
advertised in these columns of reliable
make and sold by reliable firms at
reasonable prices. Write for particulars.

Col. Morrill is putting up great attrac-
tions on Union Park next week, Aug.
21-22-23 and 24. In addition to a big
field of entries in all the classes he has
added a pacing dog, driven by a boy
4 years old, and a full grown dog, driven
by a wild animal. Half fare from every-
where.

The Farmers Institute advertised for
Saturday August 18th, has been post-
poned for one week and it will be held
on Saturday August 25th with the same
speakers and subjects as advertised.

B. WALKER McKEEN, Sec.
NAHUM HINCKLEY, Mem.

The North Waldo Agricultural Society
will hold their fair at Unity on Oct. 3d
and 4th. The races will consist of 3-
mile, 25, 225, 2 1/2 mile, each for a
purse of \$100. E. B. Hunt, Unity,
Sec.

The fair of the Orrington Agricultural
Society will be held two weeks later
than usual this year, on account of the
lateness of the crops. The dates are
fixed for Sept. 10, 20 and 21. The amount
of the purses has been increased \$40.

For the land's sake—use Bowker's fer-
tilizers. They enrich the earth.

City News.

—The Cony High School will open for
the fall term Sept. 10.

—The soldiers have arrived for the an-
nual muster, and the city once more
wears a semi-military aspect.

—The credit is due to Mr. C. S. High-
born for obtaining from the State au-
thorities the freedom of the grounds op-
posite the State House for a public park.

—Saturday was the hottest of the
season, the mercury climbing up to the
90 mark. It was unkind of Old Prob to
send us such a day right in Old Home
Week, and damage the reputation of the
state for cool weather.

—Among the callers at the Farmer of-
fice this week were Rev. Ora Hilton,
who was formerly connected with the
Gospel Banner in this city, and C. Hart
Blackington, an Augusta man who now
claims Boston as his abiding place.

—The Bond Bridge bridge was opened
for travel Saturday night. It is a 50 ft.
girder structure, resting on 16 ft. granite
abutments, and will doubtless prove very
satisfactory and durable. It was entirely
set up by Street Commissioner Wellman
and his men without assistance from
bridge experts.

—The curfew law is to be enforced in
August, and it is hoped that the spec-
tacle of boys and girls loitering about the
streets at late hours will no longer dis-
grace our city. Since parents are chil-
dren, the municipal authorities must take
the matter in hand.

County News.

—A little four-page paper called The
Campaign News has recently shown up
in Gardiner, and is devoted to the ex-
pansion of politics from the democratic
standpoint, chiefly in relation to the
Gardiner post-office matter.

—The term reported sold by Mr.
Strout last week should have been that
of Mr. Loren P. Dolloff of Mt. Vernon,
the well-known buttermaker instead of
his brother at Belgrade. Mr. Strout is a
hustler in handling real estate and now
reports the sale of the Edward Gile
stand at Readfield to Mr. Andrew Sears
of Groton, Mass., who will take possession
in October. See his ad. in another
column.

—Chas. W. Marston of Hallowell, who
has been principal of the Skowhegan
High school since his graduation from
Bowdoin in '96, has received the flatter-
ing offer of a position as teacher of
mathematics in the High school at New
Britain, Conn. The school numbers 400
students, with 13 teachers, and Mr.
Marston will have the supervision of
over one-half the pupils. The place was
given him in preference to 80 or more
applicants, and is a strong testimonial to
his ability and success as a teacher.

POLITICAL.

In Androscoggin county a peculiar
situation is presented in the fight for
Sheriff. Not only have the Democratic,
Republican and Prohibition parties nom-
inated the full ticket, but the People's
Enforcement Party comes into the field
with a single purpose and a single candi-
date, Mr. W. S. Larrabee of Auburn, for
Sheriff. Mr. Larrabee seeks the support
of members of all parties upon the single
issue of the enforcement of the probib-
itory law and strange to say, the probib-
itory party opposes him. Why ever known,
there is no question as to his honesty of
purpose or integrity, and in his letter to
the public Mr. Larrabee confines him-
self to the single issue, urging voters to
act with their several parties in each
and every case save in voting for Sheriff.
His plea is direct and his position clear.
If elected he will labor faithfully to
execute the law.

Best for the Bowels.
No matter what ails you, headache to a can-
cer, you will never get well until your bowels
are put right. CASCARETS help nature, cure
you without a gripe or pain, produce easy
natural movements, cost you just 10 cents,
start getting your health

LOVE FINDS A WAY.

By JEANNETTE H. WALWORTH.

Copyright, 1900, by Jeannette H. Walworth.

"Don't love you? Don't love you? Girl, it would have been better for us both, far better, if I had loved you less."

"Father!" She recoiled from him in amazement.

He pushed his chair back abruptly and, standing up, frowned down upon her wet, uplifted face. For the first time within her recollection he put her offered caresses away from him. "Go to bed, Olivia. Go to bed. I supposed you were asleep hours ago."

"Asleep without kissing you good night, father? I never did such a thing in all my life."

He strained her to his heart briefly and kissed her on the forehead. Then he dropped heavily back into his office chair.

"There! Good night, my darling. Now go. See a gleam of open rebellion in her eyes, he raised one hand imperiously. "Obey me, my daughter!"

"But, father, Dr. Govan!"

"Do not try to argue the point with me, Olivia. I know my own business better than Govan does. I have work on hand that must be done tonight."

"Cannot I help you with it, father?"

He smiled unpleasantly and pushed away a pile of loose papers with one hand.

"No; you cannot help me, my child. It is not the sort of work I should like to see you engaged in."

"But you are not going to dispose of that great pile of papers before you sleep, father?"

He did not answer her immediately. Presently, slowly, almost reluctantly, he said:

"Yes; they must all be disposed of to-night." Again that short, unfamiliar laugh, more like the bark of an animal.

It startled Olivia by its strange unfamiliarity. She looked at him almost inquiringly. He moved restlessly under the scrutiny of her clear, loving eyes.

"We have exchanged our good nights, my dear. I am waiting for you to retire so that I may resume my work."

Badly, perplexed, sore at heart, she bent to kiss him once more and went away with the face of a child and the anxious soul of a tender woman. Tears came to her relief when he had gained the shelter of her own room.

What a horrid day it had been! What between her hot, fevered love and her inscrutable father it was enough to make a woman wish there was no such thing as a man in the world. Woman never harrowed up your feelings nor trampled upon your affections. And there were three of the wretches to make her miserable.

She was drawing the comb through her long thick hair with savage energy as she arraigned the offenders one by one.

"Father treating me as if I were a criminal brought before him for trial; Clarence saying all manner of things that had no justice nor kindness in them, then going off home in a huff; Tom Broxton writing silly letters that it breaks my heart to answer."

Between them all they were making life a burden to her. If "Mother" Spillman were not in the way, she would take Miss Malvina and fly to the ends of the earth and never speak to another man unless, indeed, to a porter or a courier or some masculine necessity incident to foreign travel.

From this tempestuous summary of an uncertain and disappointing existence she passed straightway through the gates of slumber into a happier world of dreams. She was sleeping so soundly that it was with some difficulty she was brought back to the world of realities by her father's voice.

She dreamed that she heard him calling her in a harsh, strained voice. With a start she sat bolt upright in bed to find him standing over her fully dressed. He was saying something to her which he only half aroused senses could not grasp at all.

"Get up and dress yourself quickly, Olivia! My study is in flames! A curtain must have blown against the gas jet while I dozed. We may save the house. The wing is doomed. I must rescue Reuben, the tower."

Each one of these frightening sentences had dropped slowly from his lips in a husky whisper. Olivia was slipping into a dressing gown before he was half through. "You are safe," he said in another choked whisper and rushed from the room like a madman.

Mandeville did not get up for good sleep for weeks after the mad dream. There were those who pined the old man for the loss of his books and papers, books he had been a lifetime collecting and papers that bore directly upon his business affairs.

There were others who thought he got off well in losing only the wing to his handsome house. He was safe, he said in another choked whisper and rushed from the room like a madman.

One set declared that the lawyer had displayed the calmness and the indifference of a Stoic while the flames were licking up his fine library, others that he had looked and acted more like a madman than a rational human being.

As the days wore on it was asserted in some quarters that Horace Matthews looked 20 years older since his mishap, in others that, having made his pile and secured Olivia's future, he could well afford to act as if nothing had happened.

It was all in the point of view, and the point of view where Lawyer Matthews was concerned had strange fluctuations in the town.

CHAPTER XIII.

MANDENVILLE CALLED FOR HIS PHYSICIAN. Mandeville had the usual contingent of charitable and uncharitable people, of reticent thinkers and people given to speaking their minds plainly in season and out. In short, humanity was mixed there as elsewhere.

Dr. Govan had to rebuke old Mr. Langdon, the druggist, quite sharply more than once for asking him, "How comes it Horace Matthews has got so rich?" And Mr. Mills, the most progressive man in Mandeville, who had actually had the temerity to import a

man who had something to do with an electric light system, with a view to seeing if Mandeville could not be seduced into discarding its old oil lamps, actually heard Lawyer Matthews talking to the electrician about his line of business, wanting to know if he could point out any opening for a young friend of his who would soon be returning from the other side and would want to go into that sort of business. Of course his young friend must be Tom Broxton. Mr. Mills was one of the reticent thinkers, so he did not confide even to his wife his great astonishment at hearing that Rufe Broxton's son would have to go into any sort of business. But, although he discreetly refrained from proclaiming it upon the house top, his private conviction was that "Horace Matthews' end of the seasaw had gone up as fast as Tom Broxton's had gone down."

Dr. Govan would have scored Mandeville's most progressive man with the same severity he visited upon the responsible old druggist—"a quacking quack," as he blithely called him—it is impracticable to wage active hostilities against a man who simply raises his eyebrows and shrugs his shoulders.

Dr. Govan's broad catholicity and gentle judgment of his fellow man were the logical reflex of his own sweetness of nature and abounding good humor. It was natural that Horace Matthews should have come in for a goodly share of discussion at the time of the fire, for Mandeville was never so rich in sensations as to let one slip too rapidly through its mill. But it was time to create a diversion. The doctor began his missionary work at home. If he could convert Mrs. Govan into a partisan, Matthews would be resisted with his neighbors. A man's wife is his best and surest safety valve. Mrs. Govan innocently immortalized herself.

"I was down to see the old lady yesterday, John. Malvina says she wishes you would stop in the first time you pass their gate."

"What's 'Mother' Spillman up to now?"

"Nothing new. Malvina just gets fretted over the way the old lady pecks on Horace Matthews. She says it's a regular monomania. She says she is almost afraid to let any of the neighbors mention Mr. Matthews' name in her name for fear she will blaze out something ugly about him."

"And yet," the doctor said gravely, "Matthews has been consistently kind to the old creature. He has kept up all the friendly services Broxton used to render her."

"I know it. I know that, John, but 'Mother' Spillman's a woman of strong convictions, and she is not to be bought over by any amount of flattery or substantial help."

"Bought over?" Dr. Govan gave his wife an "et tu, Brute," look and opened his battery without the preliminary of a curt challenge.

"Now, see here, Matilda! Have you gone over to the enemy? Which enemy, John Govan?" She smoothed the white bands of hair on her temples nervously. John had such a demurely incisive pair of eyes. He was using them just then as he used that sharp, shining probe among his surgical instruments.

"I should say pretty much all of them, John."

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Some women don't know what it is to be sick. They dream they are sick by the pains they bore through the day. There is no rest and no refreshment for them even in sleep. This condition is only one feature of many consequent upon forms of disease peculiar to women. The head aches often, or there are "spells" of dizziness or faintness, there is pain in the back or side, with bearing down pains. These are but symptoms of womanly disorders. Let the cause be removed and the pains will pass, and sleep will bring only dreams of happiness and love.

Accept no substitute. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, it dries up the debilitating drains, heals inflammation and ulceration and entirely cures female weakness. There is no alcohol, no opium, no cocaine, no any other narcotic. It is a strictly temperance medicine. Accept no substitute.

Sick women are invited to consult Dr. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., free of all charge. Each letter is treated as a sacred confidence. Every answer is sent in a plain envelope without fee and without fear.

Want to praise your medicine? Write Mrs. Sarah J. Burney, Putnam Co., N. Y. I have been sick for twenty years and have been almost in bed five years, and now I am able to work all day. I have taken eight bottles of 'Favorite Prescription' and four of 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and one visit of Dr. Pierce's 'Favorite Prescription' to my head and it is all gone. My throat is well and cough gone and all my troubles are over. I tried many other kinds of medicine and four doctors.

Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets help Nature to help you.

showed me a letter he got from him in answer to the announcement that all the papers were gone. He is a grand fellow, Rufus Broxton's own son."

"I wish I could have seen it."

"Oh, it was short! But it had point to it—by John, it had! I do not suppose I could repeat it verbatim, but I could give you the sense of it."

"Try, John, just to give me the sense of it. I do so want to hear how the dear boy took it. I don't mean about the fire, but about his losses. He is so young."

The old man threw back his head with an air of pride in the son of his old friend.

"He took it grandly. I could not help thinking, when I was reading that letter, how proud it would have made Rufus. He said he did not suppose he was the first man who had met with disappointments just as great on the threshold of life; that the blow was

"I know it. I know that, John, but 'Mother' Spillman's a woman of strong convictions, and she is not to be bought over by any amount of flattery or substantial help."

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"That's all so," said the doctor gravely, "but it only goes to prove the mutability of human affairs."

Mrs. Govan refused obstinately and always to mount her husband's rhetorical ladder. She preferred the safer if lowlier tableland of her own practical reflections.

"I'm not afraid, John, but what Rufus Broxton's son can make headway wherever he plants himself, but I do hope he will be careful about his dangers and things. Lucetta and his mother died so young, John. If I knew where the boy was, I would write to him in a motherly sort of way, you know. He may be slow making new friends out there, you see."

"And that's a kindly thought, Matilda. I'll find out from Matthews and let you know."

Then his office bell rang, and the doctor left the pleasant sitting room fire-side, made all the brighter by Mrs. Doctor's sweet old face, to answer it. Presently he put his head in the doorway to say:

"It is something of a hurry call from Matthews. I shouldn't be surprised if I paid him a good long visit, Matilda."

That was his formula—always to keep Matilda posted as to his movements. She had a formula too.

"And give my love to Olivia. Tell her if there's anything in the wide world I can do to send right back for me. I'll drive over anyway this afternoon with some salt rising bread and quince marmalade if you don't forbid them."

Mandeville would have been put to it to find man or woman who, having ever been sick enough to call in Dr. Govan, had not been treated to salt rising bread and quince marmalade by Mrs. Dr. Govan.

CHAPTER XIII.

"MOTHER" SPILLMAN SPEAKS OUT AT LAST.

Notwithstanding its capacity in the matter of mote magnifying and the building up of substantial charges from straws and wisps, Mandeville had a heart, and when it was known that Lawyer Matthews had actually taken to his bed and that Dr. Govan looked very grave when questioned about his patient's chances for recovery, this heart swelled with a great pity for Olivia's prospective desolation, with the result that she was overwhelmed with neighborly offers of help and sympathy.

"I do so want to hear how the dear boy took it. I don't mean about the fire, but about his losses. He is so young."

The old man threw back his head with an air of pride in the son of his old friend.

"He took it grandly. I could not help thinking, when I was reading that letter, how proud it would have made Rufus. He said he did not suppose he was the first man who had met with disappointments just as great on the threshold of life; that the blow was

"I know it. I know that, John, but 'Mother' Spillman's a woman of strong convictions, and she is not to be bought over by any amount of flattery or substantial help."

"Bought over?" Dr. Govan gave his wife an "et tu, Brute," look and opened his battery without the preliminary of a curt challenge.

"Now, see here, Matilda! Have you gone over to the enemy? Which enemy, John Govan?" She smoothed the white bands of hair on her temples nervously. John had such a demurely incisive pair of eyes. He was using them just then as he used that sharp, shining probe among his surgical instruments.

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